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CHILD'S SELF-HELP OVERALL



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CHILD'S SELF-HELP OVERALL

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For children's playtime when clothes have to "take it," overalls are the choice of mothers and youngsters alike. An overall planned with a child's needs in mind, like the one pictured, is designed for freedom in play and easy dressing and undressing without help of grown-ups.

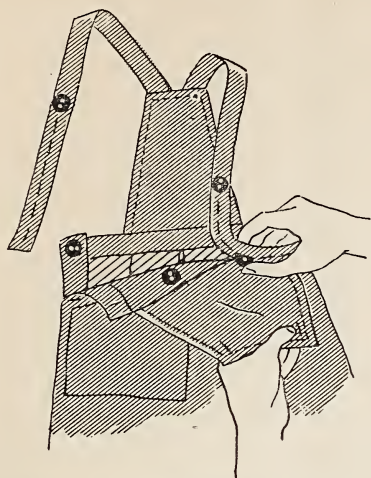
• **Room for stooping.** Children often play in a squatting position, so overalls need extra seat length. This may be provided by setting in small pleats at the bend of the hips, as shown in the overall below.

• **Shoulder straps that stay up.** Built-up back as well as front, plus straps set to fit the slope of shoulders—this is an arrangement that keeps straps from sliding off and hampering the arms.

• **Legs a safe width.** A child needs overalls with legs wide enough for easy knee bends but not so wide they cause him to trip and fall.

• **Easy to put on.** Anchoring shoulder straps so they can't get out of hand is one way to make overalls easy for a child to put on and take off alone. Mother buttons the strap ends inside the waist before the overall is put on. There's no need to unfasten these buttons again until washday. The child merely steps into the overall, pulls it up, and slips an arm under each shoulder strap. Then he has only to button the easy-to-reach buttons at top of bib and sides.





Adjustable straps are fastened at waist in front before child puts on overall.

● **Adjusts to child's growth.** An overall cut so it can be let out in both body and legs is better than an oversized one that has to be grown into. Clothes too large are as uncomfortable and hampering as those too small. The overall pictured has adjustable straps with several buttonholes that allow for lengthening the body of the garment. The legs have wide hems to let out. These hems are better and safer than the usual cuffs, which collect sand and dirt and won't stay up.

● **Soft, durable materials.** For children's overalls, choose soft, flexible material firm enough to stand the wear and tear of rough play. Corduroy and soft denim are examples.

If materials have been treated to assure minimum shrinkage, overalls will keep their size and fit. A shower-resistant finish resists dampness and soil.

Goods dyed fast to sun, washing, and perspiration will look fresh for the lifetime of the overall.

● **Seams and finishes.** Seams that are soft, flat, and smooth as well

as even and strong, are best for a child's overall. Tailored flat fells sometimes seem too stiff for the material. Then double-stitched welt seams may be better.

● **Fastenings.** For a child's overall you want fasteners that are both lightweight and durable. Flat, round buttons of medium size are generally easiest for preschool children to manage. Avoid heavy hardware types like those on men's overalls. Also avoid metals that may rust, bend, or crush in the laundry.

● **To wear with overalls.** Cotton knit T-shirts with plenty of stretch in the neck for pulling on and off over the head are both practical and comfortable. They don't work up and out as blouses do. They are not bulky, need no fastenings, and do not have to be ironed. In a short-sleeved shirt choose sleeves finished with hems rather than cuffs. The open sleeve is more comfortable and simplifies dressing.



Getting into the overall is easy.

OVERALLS FOR THE TODDLER

Like the older child, the toddler and the baby who is only creeping need comfortable, well-fitting overalls designed for action.

Make the overalls from soft, light-weight corduroy, unstiffened denim, or the thicker dress cottons. Don't sacrifice comfort to durability.

To save tumbles, overalls with worsted knit cuffs are good. Toes then can't catch in open legs.

Cotton knit pull-overs go well with overalls for these very little folks. Be sure the neck stretches enough so you can get the garment on and off the child without a struggle. When long sleeves are needed, cardigan sweaters are easier to manage than pull-overs.



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